

were incapable of standing on their legs and spasmodically threw back their heads in the way that diseased poultry chicks do. They were not much more than a day old, and though we took them home, for no parent was visible, they did not feed or survive. The specimens have been preserved in the collection of the Bombay Natural History Society and bear Nos. 22947 and 22948.

No Grey Junglefowl chick is available for comparison, but according to Stuart Baker (FAUNA 5:300) it is similar to the Red Junglefowl (see figure), which he describes as having 'a broad central plum-brown streak from crown to tail and a streak of the same colour through the eye' (FAUNA 5:297), except that 'the lateral bands (are) almost white and the sides and lower parts dull grey'.

The present specimens have no markings on the head which is cinnamon-brown. There is a dark sepia-brown band over 10 mm. wide, along the whole back, bordered by pale cream-coloured stripes about half the width on both sides. These are again edged with thinner lines of dark sepia-brown on the sides. The wing stubs and an undefined band across the upper breast are similar to the head, while the chin and underparts are paler tinged with yellowish. This is so different from the Grey Junglefowl Chick as described by Stuart Baker above that I take these to be chicks of the Red Spurfowl.

This also serves to warn us that game birds are subject to diseases afflicting domestic poultry—see note in *Journal*, 51:747-748.

75, ABDUL REHMAN STREET,

BOMBAY-3,

July 3, 1968.

HUMAYUN ABDULALI

### Note

Since writing this note I have seen the following description of 'a chick by Sykes (1832) *Proc. zool. Soc. London* p. 154, which has so far been overlooked.

Pullus. *Fusco-ferrugineus, vittis tribus dorsalibus latis, intermedia saturate rufo-brunnea, lateralibus flavescenti-albidis.* H. A.

## 9. A FURTHER NOTE ON THE DISTRIBUTION OF *CUCULUS CANORUS* LINNAEUS

I heard the unmistakable call of the cuckoo (*Cuculus canorus* Linnaeus) in a lovely teak forest near Sathanpalli, Khanapur Block, Adilabad District, Andhra Pradesh on July 24, 1968.

Sathanpalli is just north of the Godavari River, east of Nirmal, and is at about the same latitude as the Abdulali record of 1954<sup>1</sup> in adjacent Maharashtra. According to Ripley, (SYNOPSIS, 1961) the *C. c. canorus* Linnaeus form may occur in the hills of neighbouring Madhya Pradesh and Orissa but to my knowledge this is the first record of the bird in northern Andhra Pradesh in non-wintering range.

'TREETOPS',  
MEDCHAL,  
HYDERABAD DISTRICT,  
ANDHRA PRADESH,  
August 4, 1968.

GEORGE F. NEAVOLL

10. OCCURRENCE OF THE EUROPEAN BEE-EATER  
*MEROPS APIASTER* LINNAEUS, AT METTUR DAM,  
SALEM DISTRICT, MADRAS

While working out a small collection of birds from Salem District, Madras, made in February 1952 by Dr. K. K. Tiwari of the Zoological Survey of India, I found two specimens of the European Bee-eater (*Merops apiaster* Linnaeus) from the Mettur Dam area. The specimens, both adult females, were taken on 20 February 1952.

Standard literature on Indian avifauna does not include southern India within the range of the species. The present record would, therefore, extend its range as far south as Mettur Dam area in Madras State.<sup>2</sup>

I am thankful to the Officer-in-Charge, Bird Section, Zoological Survey of India, for providing facilities to study the material.

ZOOLOGICAL SURVEY OF INDIA,  
INDIAN MUSEUM,  
CALCUTTA-13,  
June 24, 1968.

MONISHA BASU ROY

<sup>1</sup> *J. Bombay nat. Hist. Soc.* 52 : 210.

<sup>2</sup> These are more correctly, vagrants—Eds.